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but not wanting in interest, and the situations are natural and dramatic. There is great animation in the conversations, and the descriptive parts of the book are not only vivid and picturesque, but they show that the author possesses a sentiment of the beauty of Nature, and is a careful observer of her various displays. He has both humor and pathos, and he is quite free from exaggeration in the use of these perilous faculties.

The book is not one of which an abstract of the story would convey a sufficient or even a correct notion, because the story is itself intended as a vehicle of ideas. It is a book that may be read for information, as well as for entertainment. The very fact that it was written for Russians, — that its whole conception, scenery, and development are Russian, — makes it the more interesting to foreigners. It is so good that we hope that Mr. Schuyler will go on to give us translations of Mr. Turgenev's other works. We have little doubt that the public will welcome them cordially. We commend this one, at least, as a novel far better worth reading than most of those which come from the press, and we are grateful to Mr. Schuyler for the real pleasure which his translation has afforded us.

The translation is, on the whole, very well executed, and in great part, especially as the story advances, it reads almost with the freedom and idiomatic raciness of an original work.

16. — *Critical and Social Essays, reprinted from the New York Nation.*
New York: Leypoldt and Holt. 1867. 12mo. pp. 230.

THE reputation which the Nation has justly acquired during the last two years, not only for the general ability with which it is conducted, but also for the unusual literary merit of many of its articles, will be extended and confirmed by the publication of this little volume. It contains twenty-five essays, by various hands, and on a great variety of topics of present interest. All are entertaining, clever, and well written; and some of them deserve the higher praise of being the condensed statement of vigorous thought upon questions of practical importance. The value of these essays is not purely literary, but consists much more in the reflection they afford of the best thinking and temper of the times in their sympathetic and intelligent criticism of prevailing forms of life.

We trust that this is but the first of a series of similar volumes. The Nation has a right to count on long life. It fairly represents, as no other of our weekly journals does, the best thought and culture of America. It is in the worthiest sense American in tone and principle.

It has already done good work in raising the standard of political discussion, and social and literary criticism. It deals with public questions with entire independence and masculine common-sense. There is now no better political writing than is found in its columns, — writing which gives evidence of rare mental discipline and fairness, and special training in political science, and is the expression of strong convictions deliberately formed, and maintained with dignity and moderation. The contrast which the Nation thus affords to the common run of newspapers is very striking. Its opinions on the matters which it treats carry weight with readers capable of appreciating sound argument and well-matured opinion. It has already acquired an influence of which it may be proud, and yet it has but just entered on its career.

17. — *The Correlation and Conservation of Gravitation and Heat, and some of the Effects of these Forces on the Solar System.* By ETHAN S. CHAPIN. Springfield, Mass.: Lewis J. Powers and Brother. 1867. 12mo. pp. 120.

IF we were to compare Mr. Chapin's powers of mathematical and speculative insight with those of eminent modern physicists, it would be greatly to his disparagement. We think, nevertheless, that he reasons on physics much better than Aristotle, and has much clearer ideas on many scientific subjects. But if Aristotle had had the advantages, in early life, of a training in the maturest results of modern science, prior to the development in his own mind of speculative opinions grounded on his own unaided observations and reflections, — if, in other words, he had had a truly educational discipline in science, — he would doubtless have excelled our author. How it would have been had he acquired a knowledge of modern science later in life, and after his opinions were in great measure formed, it would be more difficult to decide. How far later instruction can supply the deficiencies of early education is indicated, however, in certain historical examples, to which our author refers in his Preface. Newton, at the time of his death, "had not above twenty followers out of England"; and Kepler said of his immortal work, "It may well wait a century for a reader, as God has waited six thousand years for an interpreter of his works." The author adds, "Therefore, when I not only introduce new theories, but combat the errors of accepted ones, I may expect to wait long for an impartial reader." It will be seen that our author here compares himself to these eminent philosophers. But to our mind he much more nearly resembles the majority of their contemporaries. The self-